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or a pharmaceutically acceptable metabolically-labile ester or amide thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salts or hydrates thereof, wherein:

R1, and R2 are selected from the group comprising:

- (i) H
- (ii) an acidic group selected from the group comprising carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono, sulfino, borono, tetrazol, isoxazol,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -carboxy,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphono,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphino,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfono,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfino,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -borono,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -tetrazol, or  $-(CH_2)_n$ -isoxazol, where  $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ , or 6;

X is an acidic group selected from the group comprising carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono, sulfino, borono, tetrazol or isoxazol;

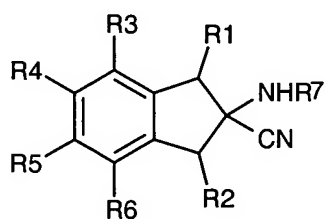
Y is a basic group selected from the group comprising 1° amino, 2° amino, 3° amino, quaternary ammonium salts, aliphatic 1° amino, aliphatic 2° amino, aliphatic 3° amino, aliphatic quaternary ammonium salts, aromatic 1° amino, aromatic 2° amino, aromatic 3° amino, aromatic quaternary ammonium salts, imidazol, guanidino, boronoamino, allyl, urea or thiourea;

m is 0, 1;

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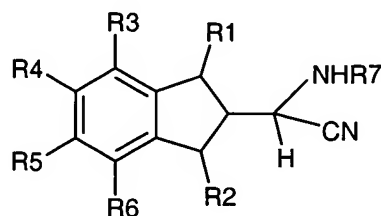
R3, R4, R5, R6 are independently H, nitro, amino, halogen, tritium, trifluoromethyl, trifluoroacetyl, sulfo, carboxy, carbamoyl, sulfamoyl, or an acceptable ester thereof; with the proviso that when X is COOH and Y is NH<sub>2</sub>, then at least one of R1 and R2 is other than H, which comprises:

- a) hydrolyzing a compound of formula (IIa) or (IIb):



(IIa)

or



(IIb)

wherein: R1, and R2 are selected from the group comprising:

- (i) H
- (ii) an acidic group selected from the group comprising carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono, sulfinio, borono, tetrazol, isoxazol, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-carboxy, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-phosphono, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-phosphino, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-sulfono, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-sulfinio, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-borono, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-tetrazol, or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-isoxazol, where n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

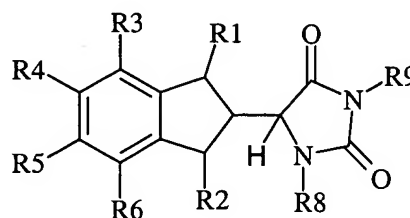
with the proviso that at least one of R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> is other than H;

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b) hydrolyzing a compound of formula (IIIa) or (IIIb):



(IIIa)

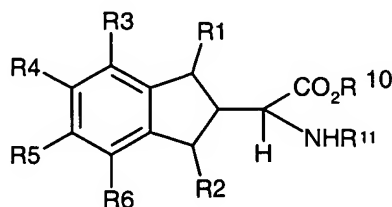


(IIIb)

c) deprotecting a compound of formula (IVa) or (IV b):



(IVa)



(IVb)

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whereafter, if necessary and/or desired, the following steps are carried out:

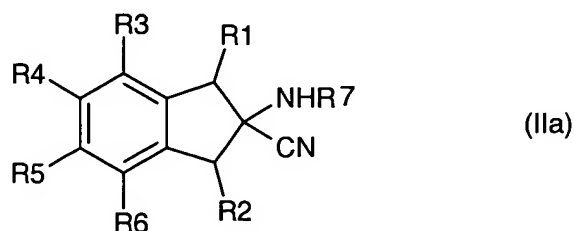
- (i) resolving the compound of Formula I;
- (ii) converting the compound of Formula I into a non-toxic metabolically labile ester or amide thereof; or
- (iii) converting the compound of Formula I or a non-toxic metabolically labile ester or amide thereof into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. (Amended) The use of the compound of structural formula (I) according to claim 1, in treating a neurological disease or disorder selected from the group comprising: cerebral deficits subsequent to cardiac bypass surgery and grafting, cerebral ischemia, stroke cardiac arrest, spinal cord trauma, head trauma, perinatal hypoxia, hypoglycemic neuronal damage, Alzheimer's disease, Huntington's Chorea, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, AIDS-induced dementia, ocular damage, retinopathy, cognitive disorders, idiopathic and drug-induced Parkinson's disease, muscular spasms, convulsions, migraine headaches, urinary incontinence, psychosis, drug tolerance, withdrawal, and cessation, smoking cessation, anxiety and related disorders, emesis, brain edema, chronic pain, sleep

A2 cont. disorders, Tourette's syndrome, attention deficit disorder, and tardive dyskinesia, wherein said use comprises administering an effective amount of a compound of formula (I).

10. (Amended) The use of the compound of structural formula (I) according to claim 1, in treating a psychiatric disease or disorder selected from the group comprising: schizophrenia, anxiety and related disorders, depression, bipolar disorders, psychosis, and obsessive compulsive disorders, wherein said use comprises administering an effective amount of a compound of formula (I).

A3 12. (Amended) A compound of formula (IIa):



wherein: R1, and R2 can each separately be selected from the group consisting of:

- (i) H, or
- (ii) an acidic group selected from the group comprising carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono, sulfino, borono, tetrazol, isoxazol,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -carboxy,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphono,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphino,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfono,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfino,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -borono,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -tetrazol, or  $-(CH_2)_n$ -isoxazol, where  $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ , or 6;

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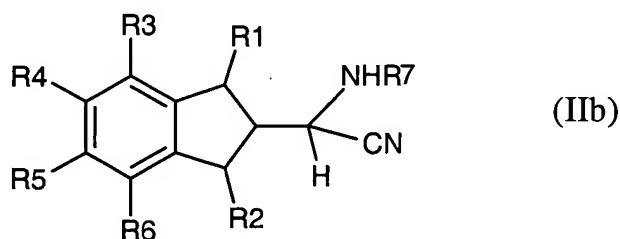
R3, R4, R5 and R6 are independently H, nitro, amino, halogen, tritium, trifluoromethyl, trifluoroacetyl, sulfo, carboxy, carbamoyl, sulfamoyl, or pharmaceutically acceptable ester or salt thereof; and

R7 is a hydrogen atom or an acyl group;

with the proviso that at least one of R1 and R2 is other than H.

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15. (Amended) A compound of formula (IIb):



wherein: R1, and R2 can each separately be selected from the group consisting of:

- (i) H, or
- (ii) an acidic group selected from the group comprising carboxy, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono, sulfino, borono, tetrazol, isoxazol,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -carboxy,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphono,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -phosphino,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfono,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -sulfino,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -borono,  $-(CH_2)_n$ -tetrazol, or  $-(CH_2)_n$ -isoxazol, wherein  $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ , or  $6$ ;